GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2017
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Capping Price of Drugs
Ram Shri Vishnu Dayal

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently capped the prices of some drugs used in treatment of various ailments, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the impact thereof in terms of price reduction for each scheduled formulation; and

(c) the details of efforts made by Government to ensure that all essential drugs, including antibiotics, are made available to the general public at cheaper price?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. After the Drugs (Prices Control), Order 2013 (DPCO, 2013) was notified on 15/05/2013, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has notified the ceiling prices of 530 formulations which appeared in Schedule −I of DPCO, 2013. Subsequently the Government amended the Schedule − I of the above said Order on 10/03/2016 by bringing in medicines in National List of Essential Medicines 2015 (NLEM 2015) under price control and the NPPA has fixed prices of 664 formulations till date. This has resulted in savings of about Rs. 2519 crore to the patients.

After the inclusion of coronary stents in Schedule − I of DPCO, 2013 on 21/12/2016, the prices of coronary stents were fixed by NPPA on 13/02/2017 which will result in approximate annual savings of Rs. 4450 crore to patients.

(c): The National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy (NPPP), 2012 was notified on 7th December, 2012, with the objective to put in place a regulatory framework for pricing of drugs so as to ensure availability of required medicines − "essential medicines" at reasonable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of pharma industry, thereby meeting the goals of employment and shared economic well-being for all.

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